

lubricated injector **60** is then released from the injector oiler station **150** and passed to an injector test stand (not shown). After oiling, the injector **60** is released from the injector oiler station **150** and another injector **60** is inserted into the oiler station **150**. The process is repeated as required.

It will be appreciated by those skilled in the art that changes could be made to the embodiments described above without departing from the broad inventive concept thereof. It is understood, therefore, that this invention is not limited to the particular embodiments disclosed, but it is intended to cover modifications within the spirit and scope of the present invention as defined by the attached claims.

What is claimed is:

1. A method of lubricating a surface of a fuel injector comprising the steps of:

inserting a lubricating apparatus over a surface to be lubricated, the surface to be lubricated engaging at least one valve opening member disposed in an interior wall of the lubricating apparatus, the at least one valve opening member opening a valve in the lubricating apparatus; and

allowing lubricating fluid in the lubricating apparatus to discharge past the valve and the at least one valve opening member to the surface to be lubricated.

2. The method according to claim 1, further including, after allowing lubricating fluid in the lubricating apparatus to discharge past the valve and the at least one valve opening member to the surface to be lubricated, the step of rotating the apparatus about a longitudinal axis to lubricate a perimeter of the surface to be lubricated.

3. The method according to claim 1, wherein the surface to be lubricated engages a plurality of valve opening members, the plurality of valve opening members opening the valve.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the step of rotating the apparatus about the longitudinal axis follows the equation:

R equals $360 \text{ degrees}/n$

where “R” equals the angular rotation of the apparatus and “n” equals the number of valve opening members in the apparatus.

5. A method of lubricating an o-ring disposed about a device, the device extending along a longitudinal axis, the device having an exterior surface and at least an opening in communication with an interior volume of the device, the method comprising:

coupling the device to a lubricating apparatus, the lubricating apparatus being in fluid communication with a source of lubricant; and

moving a valve opening member along a guide member of the lubricating apparatus from a first position to a second position so as to discharge lubricating oil on at least a portion of the o-ring.

6. The method of claim 5, further including:

forming a seal between the at least one opening of the device and the guide member prior to the moving of the valve opening member.

7. The method of claim 6, further including rotating one of the device and the lubricating apparatus at a plurality of angular rotations about the longitudinal axis.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the device includes a fuel injector.

9. The method of claim 6, wherein the forming of a seal further includes engaging a portion of the guide member to an interior surface of the lubricating apparatus prior to the moving of the valve opening member.

10. The method of claim 5, wherein the valve opening member includes a plurality of ball bearings disposed about the longitudinal axis.

11. The method of claim 5, wherein the guide member includes a thrust bearing disposed for engagement with an opening of the device.

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